



# The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Tuesday, September 8, to Saturday, September 12, 1812.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

*Downing-Street, September 12, 1812.*

**L**ETTERS, of which the following are extracts, have been received by Earl Bathurst from Colonel Sir Howard Douglas, dated Castrorontrigo, 22d, and Astorga, 29th August.

*Castrorontrigo, August 22, 1812.*

**W**HEN the Earl of Wellington transferred his head-quarters from Mojados to Cuellar, the Gallician divisions, then occupying La Nava and Pollos, crossed the Douro again, and General Santocildes established his head-quarters in Valladolid. On the 7th instant Tordesillas capitulated, and the siege of Toro was undertaken, but with means very insufficient.

On the 12th the enemy advanced, with about seven thousand infantry and one thousand five hundred cavalry, from Palencia towards Valladolid, which was only occupied by one battalion. General Santocildes retired, taking the road by Torrelobaton towards Villalpando. The enemy now advanced towards Toro; and it was ascertained that their objects were to relieve Toro and Zamora, and then to march to Astorga, to raise the siege, and, having withdrawn the garrison, to destroy the works.

The Spanish troops were withdrawn from before Toro, which the enemy immediately abandoned; and General Santocildes, having collected all his force at Belver, on the Rio Seco, commenced his retreat on Benevente, near which place the enemy's cavalry came up with that of the 6th army (about four hundred), and in the affair which followed we sustained some loss.

On the 19th instant Astorga surrendered, when the enemy had already reached La Bañeza, from

which place they have since retired, on hearing of the loss of that garrison, which was of such importance as to lead them into these operations. I have no doubt, from the direction they have taken, that they will now withdraw the garrison of Zamora, and entirely abandon the line of the Douro.

Astorga was commanded by a General of Brigade, was defended by a Lieutenant-Colonel of engineers, and the garrison was composed of two battalions of the 23d and one of the 1st infantry of the line—in all one thousand two hundred effectives at the time of the surrender.

*Astorga, August 29, 1812.*

**T**HE enemy retired from La Bañeza on hearing of the fall of Astorga, and took the direction of Zamora; they evacuated the latter place on the morning of the 27th, retiring by Toro towards Valladolid.

The Gallician army has again moved forward, and now occupies cantonments on the Esla, in the towns and villages near Villamanan.

*Downing-Street, September 12, 1812.*

**L**ETTERS, of which the following are extracts, have been received by Earl Bathurst from Lieutenant-Colonel William Parker Carrol, dated Zornoza, 24th August, and off Portugalette, 26th August.

*Zornoza, August 24, 1812.*

**I** HAVE the honour to acquaint you that, on the 13th instant, General Rouget, with a force of nearly three thousand men, advanced from Durango to attack Bilbao. General Renovales took up a position on the left bank of the river, having his right on the heights of Bolucta and Ollargan,